

CINEPLEX

MAGAZINE

**SUPER
FUN!**

**BRAD
BIRD**
TALKS
Incredibles

2

Inside
**TONI
COLLETTE**
**JEREMY
RENNER**



**JURASSIC
FACTS & STATS**
PAGE 24

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TEARY-EYED
KINDA
LAUGHTER.



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We visit Pixar's California headquarters to talk to writer-director **Brad Bird** about bringing the first family of superheroes back to the big screen for *Incredibles 2*, and why sometimes you just have to throw away months worth of work to get the best results.

PLUS: An interview with **Domee Shi**, the Canadian director of *Bao*, Pixar's first short film set in Toronto
BY MARNI WEISZ

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Sandra Bullock, Rihanna and a cast of gorgeous gals try to rob the Met Gala in *Ocean's 8* — an event the actors have attended in real life many times

BY MARNI WEISZ

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Toni Collette decided to make only fun and happy films for a while. Then she got the script for *Hereditary* and that plan went out the window

BY INGRID RANDOJA

34 RUNNING MAN

Jeremy Renner is the one to catch in the comedy *Tag*, about a longstanding game between friends. Too bad about the fall that slowed him down

BY BOB STRAUSS





INCREDIBLE TRANSFORMATIONS

Have you had trouble enjoying your fellow humans lately? If so, I have some advice. After having recently spent two days at Pixar's headquarters in Emeryville, California, I noticed something very strange — and wonderful — happening. Everyone I encountered was morphing into a Pixar character.

The more unusual the person, the better the character they became. Instead of coming off as annoying, people became amusing and adorable as idiosyncrasies like a tick, a bad hairstyle or a grating voice was magnified. What might usually be perceived as a fault was suddenly downright endearing.

That muttering streetcar driver incessantly tap, tap, tapping the steering wheel with a pen transformed into a quirky bundle of pent-up energy, the angry woman behind the counter at the dollar store elicited empathy instead of animosity once she turned into a colourfully illustrated version of herself.

How did this happen to my brain?

I was part of a group of writers invited to Pixar to preview *Incredibles 2*, the sequel to 2004's much-loved animated feature about a superhero family trying to live a normal, average life. In presentation after presentation animators explained how they developed wardrobe, action sequences, visual effects and, perhaps most interesting, characters.

It quickly became clear that what set these artists apart from the rest of us was their finely tuned talent for observation. The tiny things that we don't notice, or don't notice that we notice, are paramount to creating a successful animated character — the way grandmothers dress differently than the rest of us, how a guy with big teeth has to make an effort to close his mouth, the way teens camouflage themselves behind poorly chosen bangs. These observations become the backbone of characters that are both memorable and lovable because they are so specific.

Plus, once someone is turned into an animated character they're instantly heroic — not in the superhero way, necessarily, but just because giving that much care and attention to anyone makes them the hero of their own story.

Try it. It's better than therapy for making you appreciate all the quirky humans around you.

As for the people you really, really dislike? They morph into villains. And if you've ever watched a Pixar film you know the villains are often the funniest characters of all.

Turn to "Even More Incredible!," page 38, my interview with *Incredibles 2*'s writer and director **Brad Bird** to see just how far he and his team were willing to go to ensure every detail of their film was perfect.

Elsewhere in this issue, **Toni Collette** tells us why her critically acclaimed horror pic *Hereditary* was the last film she wanted to make (page 30), and we talk to **Jeremy Renner** about why shooting *Tag* was so dangerous (page 34). Plus, on page 26 we invite you to attend the Met Gala with the stars of *Ocean's 8*, and on page 24 we whet your appetite for *Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom* with a by-the-numbers look at the franchise so far.

■ **MARNI WEISZ**, EDITOR

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SNAPS



KERRY ON!

Kerry Washington strikes a pose outside the *Jimmy Kimmel Live!* studio in Los Angeles.

PHOTO BY GETTY



WARM GESTURE

Adam Driver fixes young co-star **Azhy Robertson's** jacket on the New York set of director Noah Baumbach's still untitled film.

PHOTO BY ALESSIO BOTTICELLI/GETTY



KISSING UP

Sam Rockwell (centre) pays his respects to **Gary Oldman** while designer **Paul Smith** looks on during a dinner thrown by Smith at L.A.'s Chateau Marmont.

PHOTO BY CHARLEY GALLAY/GETTY



JOST ADORABLE

Our favourite celebrity couple, **Scarlett Johansson** and **Saturday Night Live** writer and cast member **Colin Jost**, attends the L.A. premiere of *Avengers: Infinity War*.

PHOTO BY EMMA MCINTYRE/GETTY



KALING GETS TRASHED

Trooper **Mindy Kaling** takes a trash bag in the face while filming her comedy *Late Night* in Midtown Manhattan.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS



CLASS ACTS

John Krasinski (second from right) and his wife **Emily Blunt**, behind him, meet students from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School — from left, **Cameron Kasky**, **Jaclyn Corin**, **David Hogg**, **Alex Wind** and on the far right **Emma Gonzalez** — at the Time 100 Gala in New York.

PHOTO BY KEVIN MAZUR/GETTY

TULLY'S TRIO

Tully stars **Mackenzie Davis** (left) and **Charlize Theron** (centre) share a hug with the film's writer **Diablo Cody** at the L.A. premiere.

PHOTO BY KEVIN WINTER/GETTY



ELBA TIMES TWO

Idris Elba gives his son **Winston** a ride at the Formula E ePrix car race in Paris, France.

PHOTO BY DAVID M. BENETT/GETTY



RODRIGUEZ V. DAWSON

Gina Rodriguez (right) and **Rosario Dawson** square off on the New York set of their upcoming rom-com *Someone Great*.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS



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IN BRIEF



Lex Scott Davis and Trevor Jackson in *SuperFly*
INSET: Future (left) with Director X

FLYING HIGH

Welcome to the world of feature films, Director X.

The Canadian music video director — who was born Julien Christian Lutz, but is better known to big-name clients like Usher, Kanye West, Justin Bieber, Nelly Furtado, One Direction and Jay-Z, as Director X — makes his big-screen directing debut with this month's *SuperFly*, a redo of the 1972 blaxploitation crime drama.

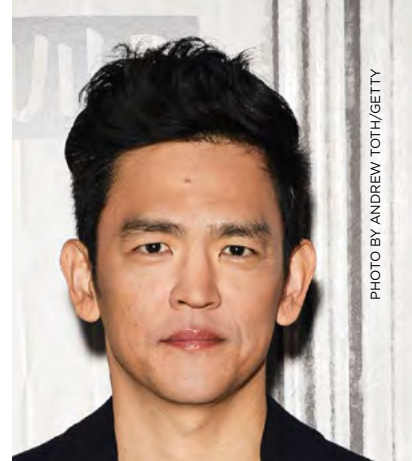
Hailing from Brampton, Ontario, just northwest of Toronto, Director X was also behind the camera for Rihanna's "Work" video, featuring Drake — a bit of musical hometown pride for Drake and Director X that was shot at Toronto's famous West Indian restaurant The Real Jerk.

We're excited to see what Director X does with this story of Youngblood Priest (Trevor Jackson

taking over for Ron O'Neal), a drug dealer who hopes that one last big sale will let him get out of the biz. Jason Mitchell steps in as Priest's partner Eddie, previously played by Carl Lee.

The original film was all sorts of controversial for portraying African-Americans as drug dealers, gangsters and thugs, with some thinking it played into stereotypes and set a bad example for the community, and others contending it simply revealed the limited opportunities for Black people in the face of white oppression.

That original movie had a legendary soundtrack too, headed up by Curtis Mayfield. This time Atlanta-born rapper Future is in charge of the score, which is appropriate since the film's location has been moved from Harlem to the Georgia capital. —MW



John Cho

On Home Turf: The Grudge

We'll be honest. We've completely lost track of where we are in the *Grudge* franchise.

Our best assessment of the situation is that the film, so far titled simply *The Grudge*, which is shooting in Winnipeg this month, is a reboot of 2004's *The Grudge*, which was itself a remake of the Japanese film *Ju-on: The Grudge*.

Whatever the case, look for **John Cho**, **Andrea Riseborough**, **Lin Shaye** and **Demián Bichir** around town as they make the scary pic about a woman trying to save herself and her son from a cursed house.

The film should hit theatres sometime in 2019.

—MW

THE ART OF FILM

"I enjoy pensive portraits, it creates a sense of mystery and intrigue," says artist Sarah Joncas, who grew up in Hamilton and Niagara Falls, Ontario, and now calls nearby Mississauga home. Joncas creates her soothing pieces with a combination of oils and acrylics, usually oils for the figure and acrylics for the background. And whether they depict actors or not, almost all of her paintings are of women. "I've always felt comfortable with female portraits as a way to personify feelings or concerns I have and want to paint," she explains. Here, from left, you see her renditions of *Princess Mononoke's* San, *Amélie's* Audrey Tautou and Naomi Watts in *Mulholland Dr.* To see more go to sarahjoncas.ca. —MW





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ROCKY MOUNTING

Sylvester Stallone was in Philadelphia filming *Creed II* when he visited the Rocky statue outside the Philadelphia Museum of Art (where Rocky famously trained on the museum's stairs) to attend to some unfinished business.

A plaque that was made for the statue 12 years ago had somehow been misplaced but resurfaced recently and was ready to be mounted. It features a sentiment from 2006's *Rocky Balboa*, "It's not how hard you hit, it's how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward — that's how winning is done."

Creed II is expected to hit theatres in November.

PHOTO BY GILBERT CARRASQUILLO/GETTY



DID YOU KNOW?

Johnny Knoxville takes a painful ride in *Action Point*

Action Point, the ridiculously dangerous and unregulated theme park depicted in Johnny Knoxville's new comedy of the same name, is based on a real theme park in New Jersey. From the late 1970s to the mid-1990s, the very real Action Park was known for rides with names like Kamakazi, Roaring Springs and The Space Shot that were poorly designed, largely controlled by the guests themselves, and would leave people bloodied and bruised. There were also six fatalities at the park during its 18-year run. —*MW*



Quote Unquote

I love playing with suspense.
I like intensity, and I love to make the audience feel the total experience.

DIRECTOR **JUAN ANTONIO BAYONA** ON MAKING
JURASSIC WORLD: FALLEN KINGDOM



A Soldier's Story

Just look at this moody image of Benicio Del Toro, resolute and mysterious, in this month's *Sicario: Day of the Soldado*, the follow-up to 2015's excellent Mexican-border thriller *Sicario*. It's a mouthful of a movie title, but what does it mean? Well, *sicario* means hitman in Spanish, which refers to Del Toro's character, lawyer turned mercenary Alejandro, and *soldado* means soldier. So if the title *Sicario: Day of the Soldado* is tripping you up just think of it as *Hitman: Day of the Soldier*.

Either way, the film hits theatres June 29th.



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**SICARIO: DAY
OF THE SOLDADO**
HITS THEATRES
JUNE 29TH

Masterful Headmaster

Casting agents in search of a tall, rugged-looking actor to play a sheriff, railroad man, vampire or vampire hunter call Christopher Heyerdahl. The 54-year-old Vancouver native has spent the past 20 years working non-stop, appearing on TV shows such as *True Blood*, *Tin Star*, *Hell on Wheels*, *Damnation* and *Van Helsing*.

His stern countenance is put to good use this month as he plays Headmaster Deats in *Sicario: Day of the Soldado*. The sequel to 2015's thriller *Sicario* once again stars Benicio Del Toro as ruthless hitman Alejandro, who is tasked by a shady American operative (Josh Brolin) to clean up corrupt cartels. However, he unexpectedly finds himself protecting Isabela (Isabela Moner), the daughter of a drug lord.

"Headmaster Deats is the headmaster of a very prestigious academy in Mexico City where one of our heroes, Isabela, goes to school," says Heyerdahl on the phone from Los Angeles. Getting the opportunity to work with the young actor reminded Heyerdahl why he loves acting so much.

"For a young person Isabela's got quite a résumé and watching that ease in front of the camera is something that I found quite fascinating. She was prepared, ready to go and having a lot of fun playing the scene," he says. "It's like whenever I get on set, I feel the deep love of what it is we do and it becomes almost like a fire."

If Heyerdahl's name seems familiar it's because he is the second cousin of famed Norwegian adventurer Thor Heyerdahl, who in 1947 led an expedition that sailed the small raft *Kon-Tiki* across the Pacific Ocean.

"That story always inspired me," he says. "It's that moment where the men are building the raft and this ship's captain looks at them very seriously and says, 'Don't do this. I've seen what the ocean can do and how angry it gets and the route you're planning is not easy and you will die.' And not a single one quit."

"That always inspired me to move forward when I felt strongly that I was capable of doing something, it helped move me right ahead into that stormy sea of impossibility." —INGRID RANDOJA

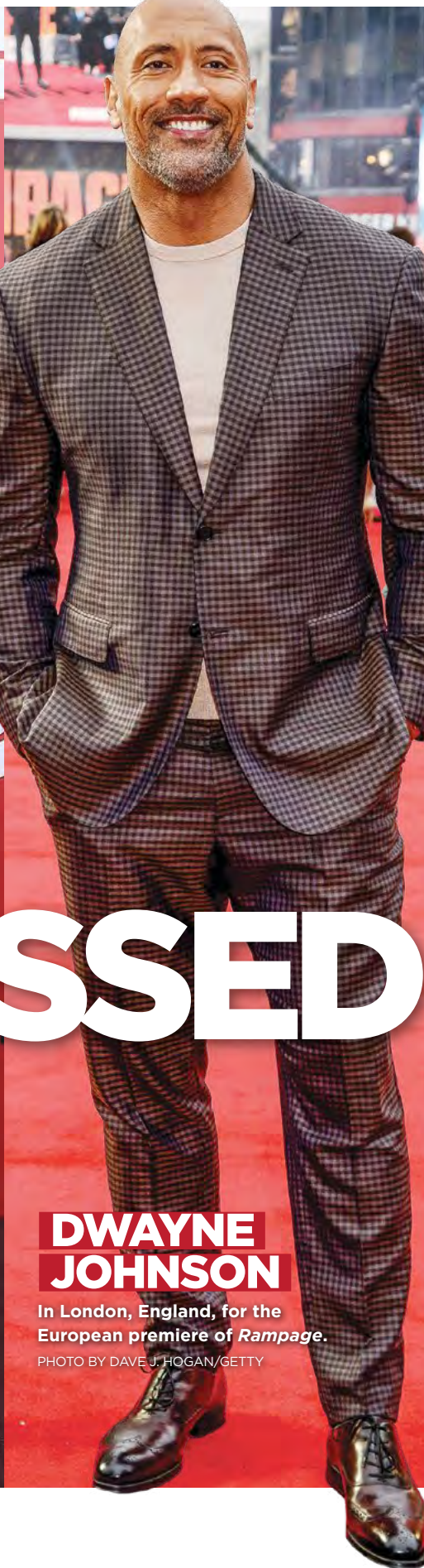




**THANDIE
NEWTON**

At the L.A. premiere of
Westworld's second season.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL TRAN/GETTY



**DWAYNE
JOHNSON**

In London, England, for the
European premiere of *Rampage*.

PHOTO BY DAVE J. HOGAN/GETTY



**NOOMI
RAPACE**

At the Tribeca Film Festival
screening of *Stockholm* in New York.

PHOTO BY ANGELA WEISS/GETTY



**ELIZABETH
OLSEN**

In London, England, for the
Avengers: Infinity War U.K. fan event.

PHOTO BY DAVE J. HOGAN/GETTY



**TOM
HIDDLESTON**

In Seoul, South Korea, for the
premiere of *Avengers: Infinity War*.

PHOTO BY HAN MYUNG-GU/GETTY



**MALIN
AKERMAN**

In London, England, for the European
premiere of *Rampage*.

PHOTO BY DAVE J. HOGAN/GETTY

IN THEATRES

JUNE 1

ACTION POINT

Daredevil *Jackass* star **Johnny Knoxville** is up to his old tricks in this comedy based on a real New Jersey theme park, which was considered the most dangerous park in America before it closed in 1996. Here, Knoxville performs his own stunts playing the owner of Action Point who decides the only way to compete against new theme parks is by making his old-school rides as risky as possible.



ADRIFT

Baltasar Kormákur (*Everest*) directs this fact-based survival tale starring **Shailene Woodley** and **Sam Claflin** as Tami and Richard, a couple that agrees to sail a boat from Tahiti to California. Their relaxing voyage turns into a nightmare when they head into the heart of a Category 5 hurricane that leaves the boat ruined, Richard seriously injured and Tami in charge of finding a way to get to dry land.



Adrift's sailors Sam Claflin and Shailene Woodley

JUNE 8

HEREDITARY

Hereditary is both a terrifying horror film and an intense family drama full of strange twists and turns. **Toni Collette** plays Annie Graham, an artist whose mother dies. The loss begins to affect Annie, her husband (**Gabriel Byrne**) and especially her two kids, teenager Peter (**Alex Wolff**) and young daughter Charlie (**Milly Shapiro**), in horrifying ways. See **Toni Collette** interview, **page 30**.

OCEAN'S 8

The *Ocean's* trilogy of heist films gets a fourth installment; an all-female spinoff starring **Sandra Bullock** as Debbie Ocean, estranged sister of Danny Ocean (**George Clooney**), who assembles a team of larcenous ladies to pull off a job during the annual Met Gala. The deliciously diverse cast includes **Cate Blanchett**, **Helena Bonham Carter**, **Rihanna**, **Mindy Kaling**, **Anne Hathaway**, **Sarah Paulson** and **Awkwafina**. See *Ocean's 8* Met Gala feature, **page 26**.



Hereditary's Toni Collette

THE QUEST OF ALAIN DUCASSE

This documentary follows famed French chef **Alain Ducasse** as he travels the world searching for culinary inspiration for his latest restaurant set to open inside the Palace of Versailles.

CONTINUED ►



The Quest of Alain Ducasse's titular chef



Ocean's 8's thieving cast, from left: Sandra Bullock, Cate Blanchett, Sarah Paulson, Rihanna, Helena Bonham Carter, Mindy Kaling and Awkwafina



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JUNE 15



Incredibles 2

► INCREDIBLES 2

It's been 14 years since we last saw the Incredibles, the animated superhero family composed of Mr. Incredible (**Craig T. Nelson**), his wife Elastigirl (**Holly Hunter**) and their kids Violet (**Sarah Vowell**), Dash (**Huck Milner**) and baby Jack-Jack. Director **Brad Bird** returns for the sequel that is set moments after the first film ends and finds Mr. Incredible taking on domestic duties while Elastigirl is asked by businessman Winston Deavor (**Bob Odenkirk**) to head up a project to make superheroes legal again. **See Brad Bird interview, page 38.**

BEAST

Set on the Channel Island of Jersey, this psychological thriller stars **Jessie Buckley** as Moll, a troubled girl from a dysfunctional family who falls for the mysterious Pascal (**Johnny Flynn**), a loner who is suspected of murdering girls on the island.



SuperFly's
Jason Mitchell (left)
and Trevor Jackson

SUPERFLY

This remake of the 1972 blaxploitation hit recounts the rise of Atlanta crime lord Youngblood Priest (**Trevor Jackson**), who realizes holding onto money, women and power is a lot harder than getting it in the first place. Helmed by Canadian filmmaker **Director X**, who made his mark directing music videos for Drake and Rihanna.

CONTINUED ►



TAG

This ensemble comedy is based on a group of real-life friends who have been playing a game of tag for 30 years. Here, the gang includes **Ed Helms**, **Jon Hamm**, **Hannibal Buress**, **Isla Fisher** and **Annabelle Wallis**, who are determined to make their elusive pal Jerry (**Jeremy Renner**) "It." **See Jeremy Renner interview, page 34.**

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MET OPERA

Così fan tutte (Mozart)

ENCORE: SAT., JUNE 2

Cendrillon (Massenet)

ENCORES:

SAT., JUNE 9; MON., JUNE 11; WED., JUNE 13; SUN., JUNE 17; SAT., JUNE 23

Luisa Miller (Verdi)

ENCORE: SAT., JUNE 16

Madama Butterfly (Puccini)

ENCORES: WED., JUNE 20; SAT., JUNE 30

Il Trovatore (Verdi)

ENCORE: WED., JUNE 27

FAMILY FAVOURITES

Early Man

SAT., JUNE 2

Storks

SAT., JUNE 9

Justice League

SAT., JUNE 16

The Land Before Time

SAT., JUNE 23

Despicable Me 3

SAT., JUNE 30

CLASSIC FILMS

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof

SUN., JUNE 3; MON., JUNE 4; TUES., JUNE 5; WED., JUNE 6

ANIME

Haikara-San: Here Comes Miss Modern – Part 1

SAT., JUNE 9; SUN., JUNE 10

SENSORY FRIENDLY SCREENINGS

Solo: A Star Wars Story

SAT., JUNE 9

NATIONAL THEATRE

Angels in America, Part One: Millennium Approaches

SAT., JUNE 9; TUES., JUNE 12

Angels in America, Part Two: Perestroika

SAT., JUNE 10; THURS., JUNE 14

Macbeth

SAT., JUNE 16; WED., JUNE 20; SUN., JUNE 24

BOLSHOI BALLET

Coppélia

SUN., JUNE 10

IN THE GALLERY

Van Gogh: Of Wheat Fields and Clouded Skies

WED., JUNE 13; SUN., JUNE 17

EVENTS IN VIP

The Birdcage

FRI., JUNE 15

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JUNE 22

JURASSIC WORLD: FALLEN KINGDOM

Three years after dinosaur theme park Jurassic World was destroyed, Claire (Bryce Dallas Howard) and Owen (Chris Pratt) are asked to return to Isla Nublar to save the dinosaurs before a volcano erupts and destroys the island. See *Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom* feature, page 24.

JUNE 29

PLONGER

French actor and filmmaker **Mélanie Laurent** directs this moody love story that finds photographer Paz (María Valverde) falling in love with war correspondent César (Gilles Lellouche). The couple has a baby and settles into domestic life, which makes the adventure-seeking Paz feel trapped, so she leaves her family to find herself.

LA CHUTE DE L'EMPIRE AMERICAIN

Veteran Quebec filmmaker **Denys Arcand** returns with this crime flick that is thematically linked with his previous films, *Le déclin de l'empire américain* and *Les invasions barbares*. Here, a McGill University student (Alexandre Landry) finds two bags of money stolen from a bank and is unsure what he should do with the loot.

SICARIO: DAY OF THE SOLDADO

The sequel to 2015's thriller *Sicario* once again stars **Benicio Del Toro** as ruthless hitman Alejandro Gillick, who is tasked by a shady American operative (Josh Brolin) to clean up corrupt cartels. However, he unexpectedly finds himself protecting Isabela Reyes (Isabela Moner), the daughter of a drug lord.



Josh Brolin in *Sicario: Day of the Soldado*



Alexandre Landry and Maripier Morin in *La chute de l'empire américain*

SHOWTIMES ONLINE AT **CINEPLEX.COM**
ALL RELEASE DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**There's always
an
excuse, an
easy way
or not
enough
time to get together**

**because we're busy
or it's cold out.
Though it can be
daunting to try**

**and put yourself
out there,
we as humans
need connection
and time to
laugh and
converse.
That's why this**

**June we're going
back. June 22**

**is a day when
there are no excuses.
A day to get back
to one of our oldest
behaviours.
Something we
need to make sure
we keep doing.**

Dino-Might!

The fifth film in the *Jurassic Park* franchise, ***Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom***, hits theatres this month with Chris Pratt and Bryce Dallas Howard back to save the world from runaway dinosaurs and save some dinosaurs from the rest of the world. Here we put the whole franchise — the new film, plus 1993's *Jurassic Park*, 1997's *The Lost World: Jurassic Park*, 2001's *Jurassic Park III* and 2015's *Jurassic World* — in the number cruncher and present you with 21 sums that sum up this dinosaur-sized series ■ BY MARNI WEISZ

25

Years since the first movie, 1993's *Jurassic Park*, came out.

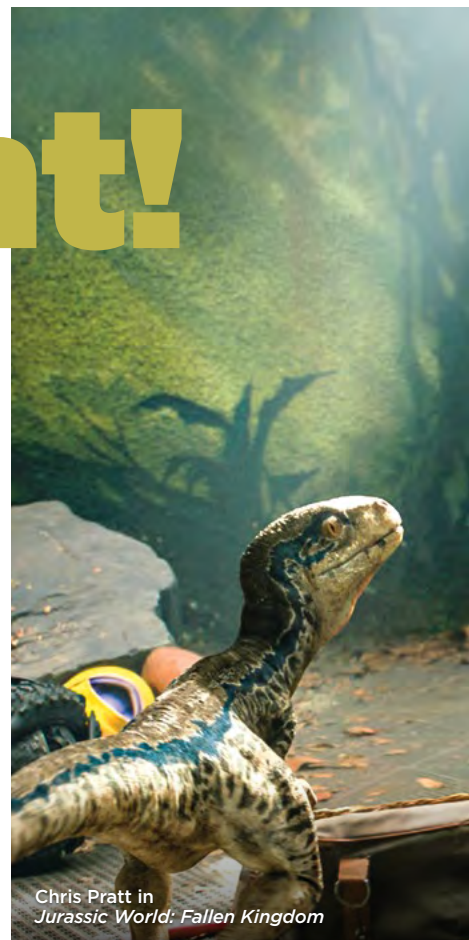


Minutes that actually feature dinosaurs in the first movie.

15

3

Number of Oscars earned by the franchise. All were for *Jurassic Park*.



Chris Pratt in *Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom*

65-million

Years since dinosaurs walked the Earth, hence the first film's tagline, "An adventure 65-million years in the making."

68-million

Number of people who watched *Jurassic Park*'s first TV broadcast on May 7, 1995.



7

Age of current franchise star Bryce Dallas Howard when she first appeared on screen as an extra in *Parenthood*, directed by her father, Ron Howard.



1

Number of famous Canadian artists who share the name "Christopher Pratt" with the franchise's current star.

8,400

Kilograms an average *Tyrannosaurus rex* weighed.

230

Kilograms of meat scientists believe a T-rex could eat in one bite.



19

Current franchise star Chris Pratt's age when he was discovered by actor Rae Dawn Chong and cast in his first movie. He was waiting tables at a Bubba Gump Shrimp Company in Maui at the time.

20

Restaurants on the *Jurassic World* theme park's Main Street, including eight cafes and 12 sit-down eateries...before it was destroyed by dinosaurs.

**JURASSIC WORLD:
FALLEN KINGDOM**
HITS THEATRES
JUNE 22ND



85

Number of movies Steven Spielberg, director of the first two *Jurassic* films and producer of the last three, has produced, executive produced or co-produced.



4

Number of movies that have featured Jeff Goldblum's character, Dr. Ian Malcolm, including this month's movie. Though in *Jurassic World*, he was only seen in a photo on a book jacket.

10

Years between when the fourth film, *Jurassic World*, was expected to come out and when it actually came out in 2015.

3

Years until the sixth *Jurassic* movie is scheduled to come out.

1

Year until "Jurassic World Live" — an arena-based live touring show featuring "a herd of life-size dinosaurs extending up to 40-feet long" is expected to stomp through a venue near you.

3



13

New LEGO construction sets being released in conjunction with *Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom*.

Number of Chris Pratt characters turned into LEGO figurines — from left, Owen from the *Jurassic* films, *The LEGO Movie*'s Emmet and Star-Lord from the *Guardians of the Galaxy* pics.

4

Number of *Jurassic Park*-themed rides at Universal theme parks around the world — two in the States, one in Japan and one in Singapore.

\$379-million

Budget for the first four movies.

\$3.7-billion

Worldwide gross of the first four movies.

THEY'VE MET

Every *Ocean's* movie has its target. Not its target audience, mind you, but the target of the big heist. This month, *Ocean's 8* splashes onto the big screen with the most glamorous target yet, the Met Gala or, more specifically, some fabulous jewellery at the Met Gala.

The event, which alternately goes by the names the Met Ball and the Costume Institute Gala, has taken place at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art since 1948, but really started to take off in the 1990s when *Vogue* editor Anna Wintour took over as chair.

Since then the fashions, and those who wear them, have become increasingly confident and leading edge. Each year boasts a theme that helps to inspire bravery, some of the more recent include "Manus x Machina: Fashion in an Age of Technology" and "Punk: Chaos to Couture."

No surprise, many *Ocean's 8* stars have attended the Met Gala as guests, including those playing the heist's leaders, Sandra Bullock and Cate Blanchett, and thieving crew members Mindy Kaling, Anne Hathaway, Sarah Paulson and Rihanna, who has become an icon at the event, even hosting a much-ballyhooed after-party in 2017.

Here we look back at those stars' attendance at the very event their characters are planning to rob in this month's movie.

RIHANNA



From left: Sandra Bullock, Cate Blanchett, Rihanna, Mindy Kaling, Awkwafina, Helena Bonham Carter, Anne Hathaway and Sarah Paulson in *Ocean's 8*

BEFORE



2014

2017

CATE BLANCHETT



2007

2012

SARAH PAULSON



2014

2017



OCEAN'S 8
HITS THEATRES
JUNE 8TH

ANNE
HATHAWAY

2013

2010

2015

SANDRA
BULLOCK

2007

MINDY
KALING

2016

2017

PHOTO BY CHANCE YEH/GETTY

PHOTOS BY CHANCE YEH/GETTY (2010), GETTY (2013), ANDREW H. WALKER/GETTY (2015)

PHOTOS BY TAYLOR HILL/GETTY (2016), ANGELA WEISS/GETTY (2017)



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GOING

DARK

How do you elevate a horror movie above mere slasher status? A great script, masterful direction and the finest actors, like **Toni Collette**. Here the Aussie actor talks about why she broke her own rule to star in the seriously scary horror film, ***Hereditary*** ■ BY INGRID RANDOJA

Toni Collette is not your average scream queen. The 45-year-old Australian is one of Hollywood's most versatile and respected performers, capable of shifting effortlessly between drama and comedy. Yet the star of *The Sixth Sense*, *About a Boy*, *The Hours* and *Little Miss Sunshine* has never appeared in a full-out horror film. That all changes with this month's *Hereditary*, a fright flick written and directed by first-timer Ari Aster. Collette plays Annie Graham, an artist whose elderly mother dies. Annie's grief affects her relationship with her husband (Gabriel Byrne) and two kids, teenager Peter (Alex Wolff) and young daughter Charlie (Milly Shapiro). Moody, creepy and full of twists and turns, *Hereditary* earned rave reviews at both the Sundance and South by Southwest film festivals.

Collette was in Los Angeles when we spoke by phone.

***Hereditary* is one scary film. What did you think when you first read the script?**

Well, I was shooting a film in Paris, a kind of light romantic comedy, which was what I wanted to be doing. I said to my agent, "I cannot do this heavy emotional stuff anymore. I don't want to do it so don't send me anything that doesn't fit that bill." And my agent called me saying, "Listen, I know you said that but I think you need to read this," and I read it. I was totally consumed and I thought it was absolutely brilliant and I called him and said, "Fu-k you!" Because

how do you say no to that? I mean it was just so brilliant.

Have you seen the finished film?

I haven't seen the final, final version. I wasn't able to go to Sundance, but I saw something very close to finished on my computer. I actually think this is the type of film which will be most enjoyed with an audience, even for me having been a part of it. There's a real excitement watching it in a group scenario and I'm going to watch it with an audience before it comes out.

CONTINUED ►





Toni Collette as artist Annie Graham in *Hereditary*

► **A *Quiet Place* just stormed the box office and it's a horror, but it's also a character study much like your film. Do you see a trend where horror is used to make quality indie films?**

Maybe. When I read [*Hereditary*] it kind of felt like *The Ice Storm* in terms of there's a real weight to it. It's so psychologically complex and logical and real and I think that it becomes even more horrific because the audience gets to know these characters and lives with them in their pain before it becomes anything else. And I think that's a very smart move because there is an investment there, and so what does come to pass is even more shocking.

What is Ari Aster like as a director?

Ari Aster is the real deal. I really think he has some kind of genius within him. When I met with him he was just so clear and so prepared; I mean, I don't think I've ever worked with such a prepared director. He was just so aware of every single moment and what was needed. It's a big movie to make in a short period of time so between he and Pawel Pogorzelski, the cinematographer, they just knew every single shot, and he knew how he was going to edit it.

I interviewed Drew Barrymore for *Miss You Already*, in which you

co-starred, and she said this about you: "Toni Collette is an actress's actress, you say her name and there is a weight to it." How does that make you feel, having such respect from a peer?

Drew is just beautiful. We had the most incredible time making *Miss You Already* and I will adore her forever. And the fact that she said that is quite touching. You know when you're going about your life, living day to day, you don't really know what anyone thinks of you, and it's not really my job to know about that stuff anyway. But I do hear occasionally things like this and it's overwhelming because I just feel like a kid who is still trying. I don't feel like I have achieved anything particular. I just go to work and I love my job. I've been doing it since I was a teenager and I'm turning 46 this year and it stimulates me and satisfies me and keeps me awake and alert and alive.

You started in the business at a young age. Was acting something you always wanted to do?

I really did. I started dancing when I was three and then by the time I was about 12 I realized I could sing and I started doing musicals because that seemed like an obvious equation. But then the love of acting kind of took over. I think, initially, it was a real opportunity for

me to just express myself as I used to feel quite overwhelmed by my emotions. And it taught me how to get them out, and I've evolved to kind of understanding them more and I became less scared of them. Acting has definitely been a tool for me in terms of simply getting to know myself and understand people in general. It's just so fascinating.

Does acting become easier or harder the longer you do it?

I'm not gonna lie, it's easier [laughs]. Easier, but it is exhausting because I don't know how to not give 100 percent, so I just have to take more time to get myself back after depleting myself.

Do you even take vacations? You seem to always be working. You have a slew of films and TV shows coming out each year.

I do take vacations but I also do like to work! But yeah, it's important to balance one's life. I certainly go and flop around in the ocean with my family whenever I can. I love working but I also do find it exhausting. I think you need to rest to be able to give everything otherwise you're just working with a half-full tank. ☑

Ingrid Randoja is the deputy editor of Cineplex Magazine.



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GAME

BOY

Few actors can move from comedy to drama to action movies as easily as **Jeremy Renner**, and impress at each stop along the way. This month's **Tag** has him on the move in a different way, as the top player in a decades-long game of tag. Too bad it turned out to be a more dangerous game than he expected ■ BY BOB STRAUSS

Jeremy Renner calls from a medical office. We chat while he's getting rehab on both arms. "I'm on my back in physical therapy right now," he cheerily explains over the phone. "I hope you'll be a pleasant distraction."

Ironically, the 47-year-old action star didn't fracture his right elbow and left wrist last summer playing Hawkeye in one of Marvel's physically demanding Avengers superspectaculars, nor did he hurt himself making one of his violent, downbeat thrillers like *Wind River*. He was making a comedy that was designed to be a pleasant distraction.

"I screwed them up doing a stunt for this movie, *Tag*," Renner admits. "Guess I shouldn't do dangerous sports like tag. Stay off the playground!"

Tag, which believe it or not is based on a ridiculous true story, comes out this month.

It's an ensemble piece built around the children's game, only here it's played by adults with seemingly limitless money, time and resources to chase one another around the globe for a month every year.

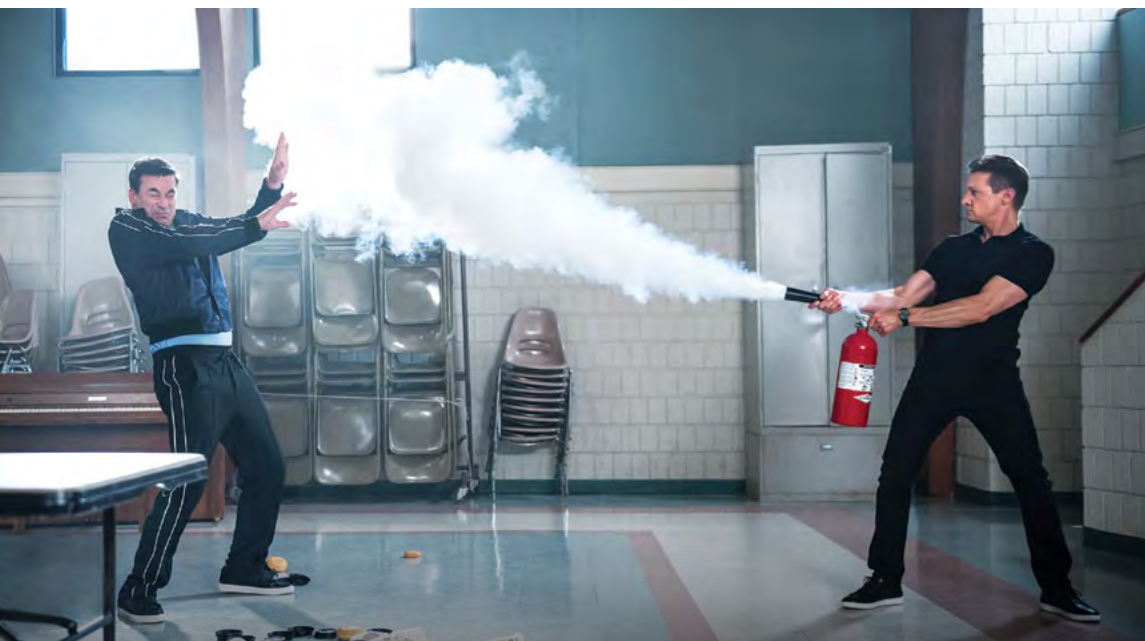
And Renner's character Jerry seems to be the first among equals, as the guy who's gone the longest without becoming "It." The rest of the gang and some significant others are played by Jon Hamm, Ed Helms, Jake Johnson, Isla Fisher, Hannibal Buress, Annabelle Wallis, Rashida Jones and Leslie Bibb.

"It's, like, almost the first Jason Bourne-style tag," explains the sometime actual *Bourne* star (he was the protagonist of 2012's *The Bourne Legacy*), perhaps by way of rationalizing his injuries. "It's a true story. There's a group of guys out there that have been friends since they were nine years old. They keep playing this game — it's the only reason they have for them to keep getting together and keep their friendship alive, and not get torn apart because of marriage or jobs or relocating. There's just something inside them that hangs on to this friendship that they've had for a long time."

Although the movie is, as Renner indicates, shot through with energetic physical comedy, the guys who have played the actual game for three decades, as explained in a 2013 *Wall Street Journal* article that became the film's source material, are much more about devious planning than

CONTINUED ►

TAG
HITS THEATRES
JUNE 15TH



Jon Hamm (left) can't get close enough to tag Jeremy Renner in *Tag*

► derring-do these days. Still, there seems to be more sweetness than competition at the heart of both the real game and director Jeff Tomsic's cinematic interpretation of it.

"The film has this kind of *Stand by Me* meets *The Hangover* tone," says Renner. "It's a bit more of an action-comedy tone. It was a decent thing to get injured on."

Although he wouldn't say exactly what he was doing when his arms got wrecked, Renner was adamant last summer that his condition wouldn't affect his ability to both complete *Tag* and return as Hawkeye for the sequel to *Avengers: Infinity War*, which went into production immediately after his *Tag* break (no pun intended) and is scheduled to hit theatres next spring.

"I'm not in too much pain," he insists from the therapist's office. "I'm working through it. I'm doing everything I should to heal up so I can do my job."

At least one frequent Renner collaborator sounded more alarmed about his accident, though.

"I know that when we film *Avengers*, our rig team is the best in the world," notes Elizabeth Olsen, who plays the Scarlet Witch in the Marvel superhero franchise and co-starred with Renner in last year's acclaimed *Wind River*. "And Jeremy's stunt guy on this other movie he was making is a guy who is on our *Avengers* team. I get swung all over the place on ropes 30 feet up in the air, so it's really crazy for me to hear a simple rigging thing got that messed up. If something happened to any of the rigs they put me on, I literally would not be here. So it makes me a little anxious."

Fortunately for Renner, he's proven himself adept at portraying more than just superheroes, though those do seem to be his bread and butter. His archer Hawkeye, a.k.a. Clint Barton, has been popping up in Marvel movies since *Thor* came out in 2011, there was *The Bourne Legacy* a year later and he has a recurring role in the Tom Cruise *Mission: Impossible* series.

But the Modesto, California, native has also been nominated for two Academy Awards, for his dramatic work in *The Hurt Locker* and *The Town*, and has further established his serious acting credentials with well-regarded performances in such movies as *North Country*, *The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford*, *The Immigrant*, *Kill the Messenger* and *Arrival*. And *Tag* is not his first comedy; Renner nailed a hilarious combination of naïve and corrupt in *American Hustle* and did a memorable guest stint on TV's *Louie*.

Despite all that, Hawkeye is the actor's best-known role by virtue of the fact that Marvel movies are just so dang popular. And although he's never been the flashiest Avenger in the universe — Clint even acknowledged in one of the movies that most of the others have superpowers or at least super suits, while all he does is shoot arrows — many fans were disappointed by his absence in *Infinity War* and expressed grave concern about Hawkeye's fate.

Whether or not Renner's injuries were a factor in that, he remained positive — and funny — about what it all could mean for the character.



AVOIDING CAPTURE

Tag isn't the first time Jon Hamm has chased down Jeremy Renner on screen. The first time, in 2010's *The Town*, there was a lot more than an amusing game on the line.

Renner played bank robber Jem Coughlin and Hamm was FBI Special Agent Adam Frawley in the excellent crime drama directed by Ben Affleck. Renner even earned the film's only Oscar nomination for his performance.

In the film's penultimate scene (seen above), Frawley literally chases Coughlin down, leading to the film's inevitable violent showdown. —MW

"Oh yeah, I'll be good," the actor says from physical therapy. "But you know, Marvel is famous for its fallible superheroes, so maybe they'll write in a Hawkeye with broken wings." □

Bob Strauss lives in L.A. where he writes about movies and pop culture.



THE PARK IS GONE

JUNE 22

IN THEATRES, REAL D 3D, DOLBY CINEMA AND IMAX





EVEN MORE INCREDIBLE

Fourteen years after *The Incredibles* introduced us to the first family of animated superheroes the sequel arrives to finally reveal what happened next. We travelled to Pixar's California headquarters to talk to writer-director **Brad Bird** about reuniting with this super gang of do-gooders ■ BY MARNI WEISZ

At the end of 2004's *The Incredibles* our superhero family's comfortable suburban home was incinerated when the villain Syndrome's plane blew up on top of it. So as the sequel, *Incredibles 2*, begins (pretty much where the first movie left off; you can do that 14 years later with an animated franchise because the actors don't age) the family is homeless, temporarily living in a motel off the highway. Then a rich benefactor — more on him later — offers to put them up in a lovely new house.

Pixar artists spent six months creating that beautiful Mid-century Modern, 2,300-square-foot house in much

the same way a real-life team of architects, furniture designers and interior decorators would. Every colour (a calming palette of muted greens and blues), every chair, every flooring material was researched, discussed and chosen for a reason. Next, each object inside that house was built, virtually, inside Pixar computers so that it could be manipulated, moved around, and "shot" from different angles.

Then the whole house was thrown away.

"It was an idea that Ralph had, Ralph Eggleston, the production designer," explains Brad Bird, the film's writer and director, of the destruction of six months of work. The tall, confident blond from Montana who sort of resembles Mr. Incredible (funny how that happens) is sitting in the main building of Pixar's Emeryville, California,





campus just a half-hour drive from San Francisco.

"He prefaced this, Ralph always has these long prefaces before he gives you anything, and he basically said, 'I have an idea that I'm very excited about. It's going to be a nightmare. If you choose to do it, it will make your life miserable.'"

They did it anyway.

"The idea was that the house should be initially impressive, and get completely impractical and uncomfortable as the film goes on," explains Bird, who also wrote and directed the first *Incredibles* movie, which earned the second of Pixar's nine Best Animated Feature Oscars since the Academy introduced the category 17 years ago.

The animators had just three weeks to replace that

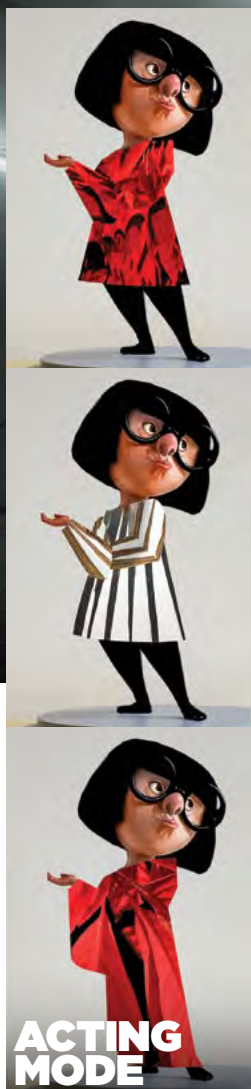
tasteful, 2,300-square-foot house with an imposing, 20,000-square-foot mansion with a striking white and red colour scheme, an indoor/outdoor pool, soaring windows and an enviable cliff-side lot at the top of a winding mountain road. Think of a Bond villain's lair, if that Bond villain had really good taste and a love of natural light.

Minutes after the family — dad Bob/Mr. Incredible (Craig T. Nelson), mom Helen/Elastigirl (Holly Hunter), daughter Violet (Sarah Vowell), son Dash (Huck Milner) and baby Jack-Jack (various gurgly baby sounds, many of which were stolen from supervising animator Tony Fucile's infant son) — arrives at the impressive new digs, Dash pushes the wrong button, opening an indoor river and destroying a finely

CONTINUED ►

The Incredibles,
from left: Elastigirl,
Jack-Jack, Violet,
Mr. Incredible and Dash
INSET: Brad Bird

INCREDIBLES 2
HITS THEATRES
JUNE 15TH



Not only did Brad Bird write and direct *Incredibles 2*. Just like with the first movie, he was the voice of diminutive fashion designer Edna Mode, the superhero family's supersuit maker.

"I'm also schizophrenic, so I can direct myself," he says. "You'd be surprised how often I find myself inadequate and incompetent. But I can't really fire myself."

Here you see a costume test for Mode that uses one of the wardrobe department's favourite methods, collage, to get an early, rough idea of her eventual apparel. —MW



Mr. Incredible and Jack-Jack watch Elastigirl head off to work

► crafted Mid-century living room set that falls into said water feature. Uncomfortable indeed.

That story pretty much sums up Pixar's philosophy. No matter how wedded to an idea you are, or how much work you've put in, if a better idea comes up, do it. Oh, and that tasteful blue and green house wasn't entirely ditched. It was repurposed as the home of Violet's friend, Tony Rydinger.

Back to that rich benefactor.

Early in the film, Bob and Helen meet a mysterious billionaire named Winston Deavor (*Better Call Saul*'s Bob Odenkirk) who has a plan to make superheroes legal again. At this point, they're still forbidden from using their powers because of the collateral damage.

Deavor wants to launch a marketing campaign to show the public what it's like to fight bad guys from the superhero's perspective, including live-streaming video of a hero/villain battle, instead of just having people see the aftermath on the news. He gives the job of prime image resuscitator to Helen over Bob because she makes more prudent decisions. That leaves Bob at home taking care of the family, including baby Jack-Jack who is a handful now that his powers — including self-combustion, self-replication, and the ability to move through solid surfaces — have surfaced.

Deavor also has a sister, Evelyn (Catherine Keener), who's in charge of technology for their project and the telecommunications company in much the same way that Black Panther's sister, Shuri, developed technology for the Wakandans.

Except, unlike T'Challa and Shuri, we have some reservations about the Deavors. For one thing, Winston is a telecommunications magnate who thinks marketing is the answer to everything. The movie will surely take some jabs at that idea.

"There's a little bit of that," says Bird with a grin. "We put a little bit of niacin in our popcorn."

Bird, whose second movie for Pixar, *Ratatouille*, also won Best Animated Feature, is as close to an auteur as you get in the animation world.

His team members say he's involved in every decision for every scene. But that's okay, because this guy has the chops. He studied animation under legendary Disney artist Milt Kahl from the time he was 14 years old, helped develop *The Simpsons*' look in the early years, and his first contribution to the world of animated features was the hand-drawn sci-fi *The Iron Giant*, which was a flop at the box office, but quickly became a favourite of animation and pop-culture aficionados.

So when he wants a change there's a reason. "It's not just, 'I want this, I want that.' He explains the motivations behind everything," says effects artist Amit Baadkar, who worked on the film's action scenes.

And whereas most of Pixar's films have two directors, Bird always directs alone.

"From my point of view, why would you *not* direct it alone," he responds sharply.

Because it's too much work for one person?

"But it's not!" he shouts. "Everybody has their own way of working and I am not in opposition, but to myself, I kind of look at them and I kid some of my fellow filmmakers here who do have co-directors and I say, 'Why would you give up any of the movie? What part of the movie are you not interested in?'"

Ultimately, though, for Bird it's not really about the breathtaking visuals and special effects — every colour, every line, every strand of hair, every piece of wardrobe, every movement, every camera angle meticulously crafted.

"The technology can only be dazzling for the moment," he says, "and then later you're left with story."

Of course, he wrote that too. ☐

Marni Weisz is the editor of Cineplex Magazine.

Pixar Short Set in **Toronto!**

Chinese-Canadian artist **Domee Shi** wrote and directed the animation giant's latest short film, ***Bao***, and set it in her hometown

Bao, the short film playing before *Incredibles 2* all over the world for the feature film's entire theatrical run is a surreal story about a lonely Chinese woman who pours all of her love into making dumplings until, one day, one of those dumplings springs to life as a little dumpling baby she calls Bao. It is also the first Pixar film to be set in Toronto.

Written and directed by Domee Shi, who moved from Chongqing, China, to Toronto when she was two, and then to the Oakland/San Francisco area to work for Pixar in 2011, *Bao* is unabashedly Canadian in its setting. There's a Canadian flag magnet on the woman's fridge, her husband wears a sweater with a maple leaf, and the first time she steps outside you see the CN Tower in the background.

Though the dumpling baby is a boy, Shi — a graduate of Sheridan College's animation program who has worked as a story artist on *Inside Out*, *The Good Dinosaur*, *Incredibles 2* and the upcoming *Toy Story 4* — says she based the story on her own life, and her own relationship with her doting mother.

Was there ever any doubt about setting *Bao* in Toronto, either your own or from someone at Pixar who thought the story should be more universal?

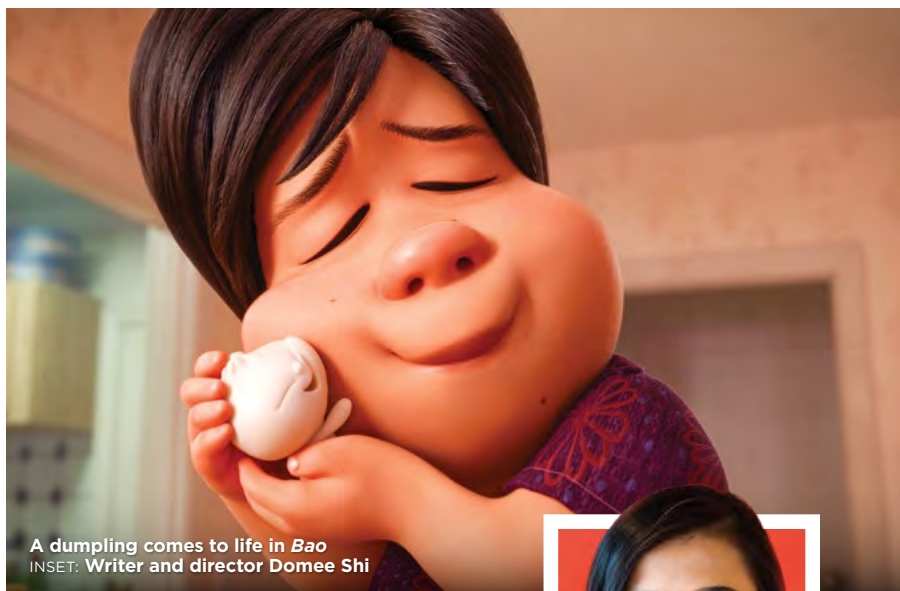
No. I feel like part of the draw was that it was so personal and specific.... It helped with making the short feel as authentic as possible. And it's an unusual place for a short to take place in, so that was also part of the appeal.

I noticed the CN Tower, the fridge magnet, the sweater, but I wasn't 100% sure, was it Toronto's Chinatown as well?

Good observation. It actually is a combination of Toronto Chinatown and San Francisco Chinatown because I wanted to give some love to SF Chinatown too. I've lived here for the last seven years and I think it's a really beautiful, unique place too. I love how they hang the paper lanterns all over SF Chinatown and you don't really see that so much in Toronto.

And what about the bus? It certainly looks like a TTC [Toronto Transit Commission] bus, but the buses here in San Francisco look pretty similar inside.

They do. I think it's the same company that makes them, but we definitely Google searched and modelled the bus after a TTC bus. We looked at a model from the late '90s/early 2000s because that would be the one that I would ride. That was another reason I wanted to set it in Toronto, because I knew Toronto, I grew up there so I wanted to put that on screen.



A dumpling comes to life in *Bao*
INSET: Writer and director Domee Shi

Even the house looked like a Toronto house.

It's a Scarborough house, actually [a suburb of Toronto]. It's modelled after my mom and dad's house, which they still live in, in Scarborough. So that whole opening shot. It's a little bit of a cheat because you can't really see the CN tower from Scarborough [and you can in the film].

Did you work in Canada at all after graduating from Sheridan?

No. I was so lucky to have gotten the story internship at Pixar after graduation and then even luckier to have them hire me after that.

What is a story internship?

So a story internship is a program that they do at Pixar every summer. They select a bunch of animation students, about six or seven of them, and we go through storyboarding boot camp, almost for three months, where we get paired up with story-artist mentors and learn the craft of storytelling and storyboarding and drawing and filmmaking, and after that internship we may or may not get a job offer.

And you're interacting with directors too?

Yeah, it was really lucky and awesome because we would pitch our assignments every week during the internship and sometimes directors of movies at Pixar would come and sit in and they would be almost like scouting us at the time, and I had a couple of them come in for my pitches and they're like, "Oooh, who's that sweaty girl? Let's have her on our movie."

What's next for you?

I'm working on an untitled Pixar project. It's very exciting. I can't tell you about it. It's in development and anything in development we can't talk about. —MW



CASTING CALL

BY INGRID RANDOJA

Gyllenhaal HEADS TO VIENNA

Jake Gyllenhaal has a slew of films in production, including the crime-drama *Finest Kind* that co-stars **Ansel Elgort**, and the thriller *Rio* with **Benedict Cumberbatch**. He adds to his workload with *Welcome to Vienna*, another thriller. This one casts him as surveillance officer Freddie Makin, who is stationed in Vienna where he's watching a Chinese academic. When someone tries to kill Freddie he has to figure out why he is suddenly a wanted man.



Remakes of 1980s films and TV shows are all the rage and **Halle Berry** jumps on the bandwagon with the remake of the 1985 thriller *Jagged Edge*, which originally starred Glenn Close and Jeff Bridges. The story finds a defense attorney (Berry) sleeping with her client who is accused of murdering his heiress wife. No word on who will direct.



British actor **Lesley Manville** was a revelation to many moviegoers in her Oscar-nominated turn as Daniel Day-Lewis's acerbic sister in *Phantom Thread*. The 62-year-old has worked almost exclusively on the English stage and in British TV and films. However, we'll be seeing more of her as she's just signed on to star opposite **Liam Neeson** in *Normal People*, which casts the pair as a married couple whose relationship is tested when she is diagnosed with breast cancer. Shooting begins next month in Belfast, but there's no word on a release date.



Director **Travis Knight** (*Kubo and the Two Strings*) is putting the finishing touches on *Bumblebee*, the first film to spin off from the Transformers franchise. Set in 1987, the movie stars **Hailee Steinfeld** as Charlie, who while repairing a beat-up VW realizes it is in fact a transformer and gives it the name Bumblebee. **John Cena** plays a government agent hunting for Charlie's transformer. *Bumblebee* hits theatres this December 21st.



Stan PLAYS DOCTOR

After nearly a full decade in development hell *Beat the Reaper* is finally coming to the big screen. **Josh Bazell's** novel finds ER doctor Peter Brown's life turned upside down when a patient recognizes him as former mafia hitman Pietro Brwna. **Sebastian Stan** stars as Brown/Brwna with **Leonardo DiCaprio** acting as the film's producer.



FRESH FACE Awkwafina

Twenty-nine-year-old rapper, comedian and actor Awkwafina holds her own alongside her higher profile *Ocean's 8* co-stars this month. **Awkwafina** (her real name is Nora Lum) was born to a Chinese-American father and South Korean mother and grew up in Queens, New York, where she began rapping at age 13. After studying journalism and women's studies at university, she changed her focus to acting and made her big-screen debut in 2016's *Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising*. She will next be seen in the upcoming *Crazy Rich Asians*.



Adams' WINDOW SEAT

Amy Adams has landed the coveted lead role in the adaptation of the bestselling novel *The Woman in the Window*. Adams plays child psychologist and severe agoraphobic Anna Fox, who has a penchant for drinking wine and spying on her Manhattan neighbours. She witnesses a crime, or does she? Depressed and medicated Anna finds herself in peril. **Joe Wright** (*Darkest Hour*) directs.

ALSO IN THE WORKS ▶ **Peter Dinklage** stars as a conman who poses as a leprechaun in the comedy *O'Lucky Day*. ▶ **Charlie Says** casts **Matt Smith** as cult leader Charles Manson. ▶ **Kristen Bell** will play a high school drama teacher who heads to a musical theatre camp for adults in the comedy *Fantasy Camp*. ▶ **Harrison Ford** and **Tiffany Haddish** join the voice cast of *Secret Life of Pets 2*.



Taming the **CAT**

Hollywood wasn't prepared to hear Tennessee Williams speak his truth when his play *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* was adapted for the screen in 1958.

The play finds Brick, a former jock who broke his ankle trying to relive his glory days, drinking away his pain while his beautiful wife Maggie wants to rekindle their dormant sex life. We learn that Brick's self-loathing is the result of a guilt he feels over the death of his close pal Skipper and his own latent homosexuality.

The film version, directed by Richard Brooks, stars Paul Newman as Brick, Elizabeth Taylor as Maggie and Burl Ives as Big Daddy, Brick's domineering father who is dying of cancer. However, MGM would not allow any reference to homosexuality, thereby diluting the film of its emotional truth.

That said, Newman and Taylor give superb performances; Newman is seething and full of angst while Taylor is animated and sensual. Taylor's achievement is even more astounding when you consider her husband, Mike Todd, was killed in a plane crash during the film's production and she funneled her grief into her performance.

—INGRID RANDOJA

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof

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A WRINKLE IN TIME

RENT IT JUNE 5

This visually stunning adaptation of **Madeleine L'Engle's** young-adult novel finds three celestial beings — **Oprah Winfrey**, **Reese Witherspoon** and **Mindy Kaling** — helping a girl (**Storm Reid**) search the universe for her missing scientist father (**Chris Pine**).



LOVE, SIMON

RENT IT JUNE 12

Hollywood embraces diversity with this gay coming-of-age love story that finds closeted teenager Simon (**Nick Robinson**) trying to figure out which of his schoolmates is his secret pen pal. **Jennifer Garner** and **Josh Duhamel** co-star as Simon's supportive parents.



TOMB RAIDER

RENT IT JUNE 12

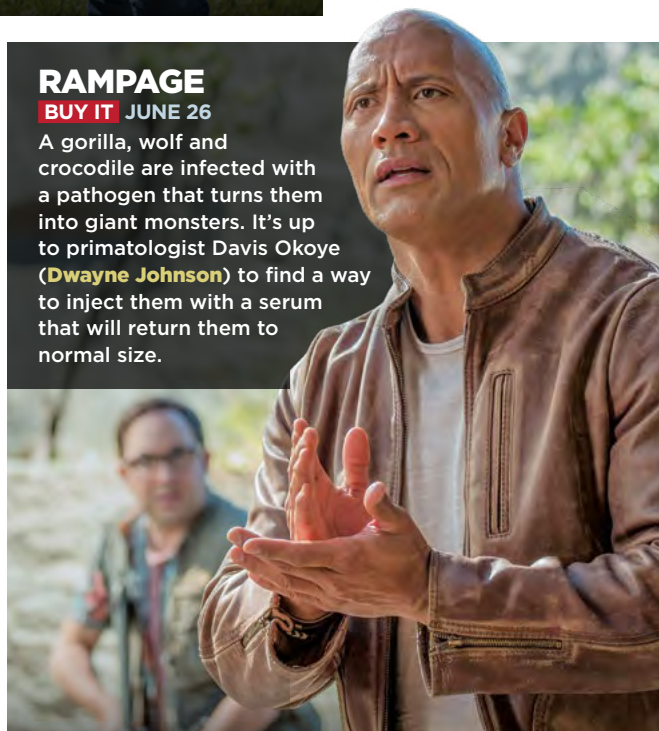
Alicia Vikander got into fighting shape to portray videogame hero Lara Croft (previously played by Angelina Jolie) in this reboot of the action-adventure franchise that sees Croft searching for the tomb of Queen Himiko, a being who can control life and death.



PACIFIC RIM UPRISING

RENT IT JUNE 19

The rock 'em sock 'em sequel to *Pacific Rim* casts **John Boyega** as Jaeger pilot Jake Pentecost, who leads a group of young pilots against enhanced Kaiju creatures (created by aliens known as Precursors) intent on wiping out life on Earth.



RAMPAGE

BUY IT JUNE 26

A gorilla, wolf and crocodile are infected with a pathogen that turns them into giant monsters. It's up to primatologist Davis Okoye (**Dwayne Johnson**) to find a way to inject them with a serum that will return them to normal size.

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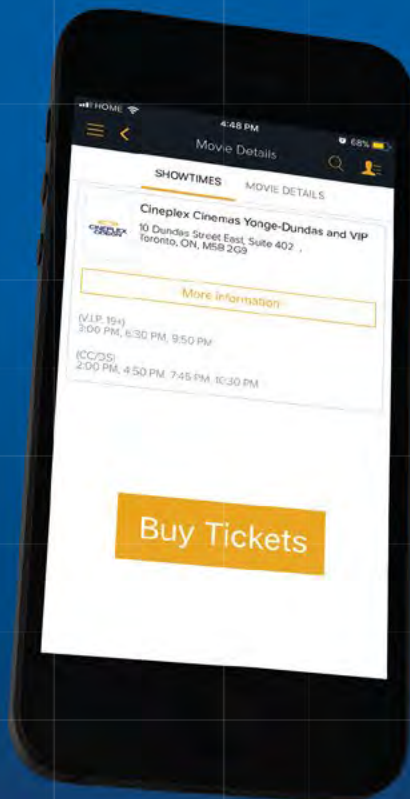

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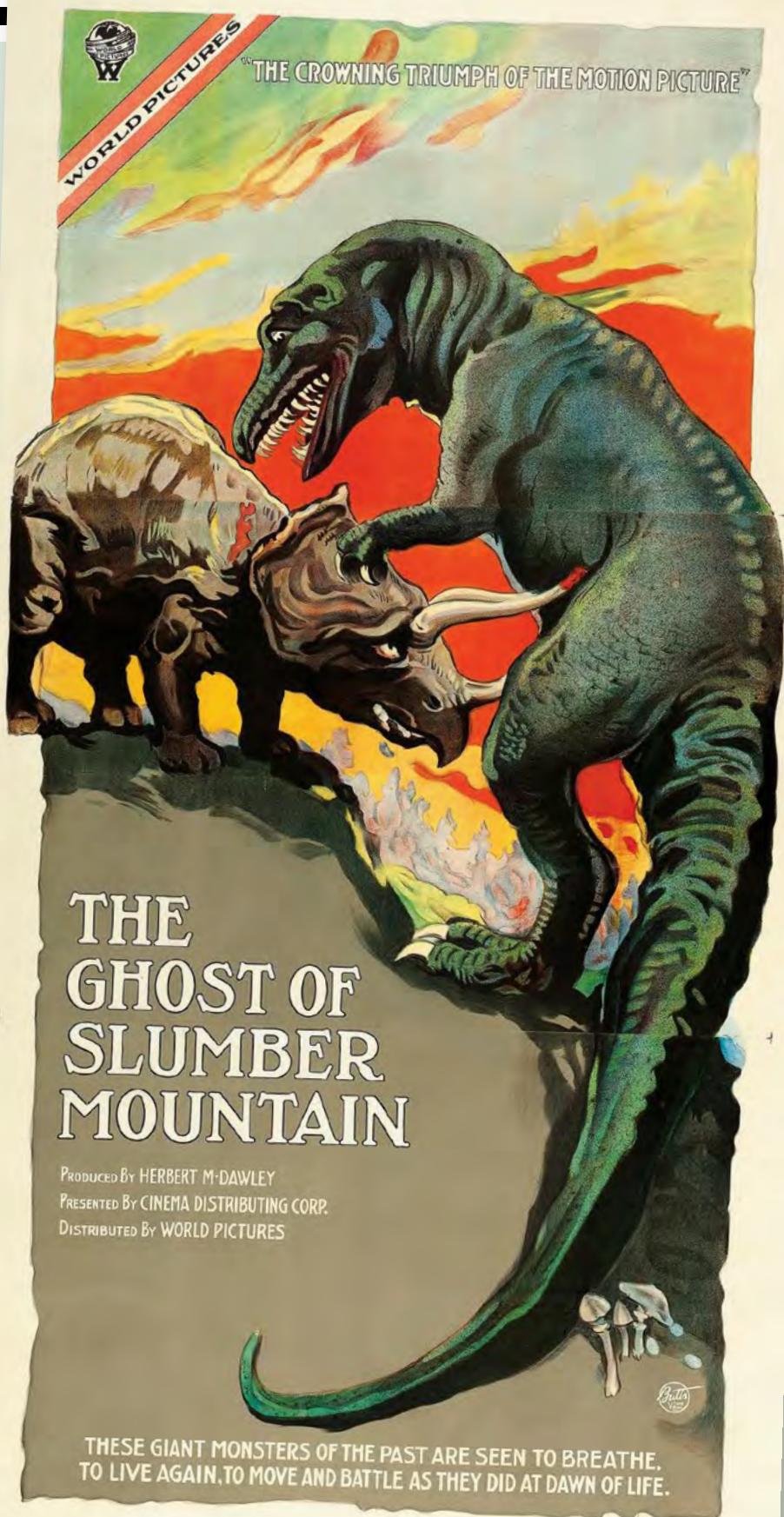
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FINALLY...

The More Things Change...

The movies have long mined our fascination with dinosaurs. One hundred years before this month's *Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom*, the beasts were the subject of the 1918 film *The Ghost of Slumber Mountain*, in which a man recalls peering through a strange telescope that allowed him to look back in time and witness a battle between a Tyrannosaurus and a Triceratops. Written and directed by Willis O'Brien, a pioneer of early special effects, *The Ghost of Slumber Mountain* was the very first film to feature live actors and stop-motion creatures together. O'Brien went on to create the effects for the famous 1925 dino pic *The Lost World*, based on the novel by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. —MW



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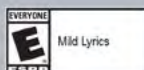


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